

the great State of Connecticut. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Mr. Speaker, unless this Congress acts, taxes will go up on the middle class by \$2,200 starting in January 2013. As time is wasted, tax cuts for 98 percent of Americans are being held hostage in order to give more tax breaks to the wealthy. It is ridiculous to hold the whole Nation hostage to protect the top 2 percent of Americans, and it is more egregious to continue offering plans that would balance the budget on the backs of the middle class.

I ask my friends on the other side of the aisle to extend the middle class tax cuts, sending the American people a hopeful message of compromise during this holiday season.

#### SENIOR CITIZENS ARE COLLATERAL DAMAGE

(Ms. BROWN of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Social Security has nothing to do with the debt problems that we are facing now, and seniors and the disabled should not be held hostage by the Republicans, whose only priority in this debate is to protect America's wealthiest citizens.

Under former President Bush, our Nation financed two wars on our credit card, and senior citizens should not be collateral damage. We lost trillions of dollars through irresponsible tax cuts. So let's be clear that tax cuts are the same as spending when it comes to the deficit. Now the Republican Party's proposed solution is to make up the difference by taking money from seniors. That is unacceptable.

I am from Florida, the home of Claude Pepper. If he were here today, he would be furious that a program developed to keep seniors out of poverty has been jeopardized by tax cuts for millionaires and billionaires.

#### WE NOW MUST LIVE AND HELP LIVE

(Mr. AL GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. The old adage "live and let live" is not enough. We now must live and help live. We have persons who will be severely impacted by the fiscal cliff if we don't take action. FEMA may lose as much as \$878 million, and this would affect persons who are victims of disasters. Persons who receive rental assistance may lose as much as \$2.3 billion in help.

It is not enough to live and allow others to live. We have to live and help others to have a better quality of life. Let's avert and avoid the fiscal disaster.

#### MANAGING ASSAULT WEAPONS AND ASSAULT CLIPS

(Mr. PERLMUTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PERLMUTTER. We've heard about it already: Friday was a terrible day in America, a terrible day in Connecticut. I represent the city of Aurora, Colorado, and we had a terrible day on July 20 when 12 people were killed and 58 were injured through assault weapons and these assault clips, these high-capacity clips. We've had numerous people killed at a Sikh temple since then, and shots were fired in a shopping center in Oregon just last week.

Assault weapons and assault clips, we must manage these things. The old saying is, "Guns don't kill people. People kill people." Well, crazy people with guns kill people, and we've got to start handling this so that we protect our children, our seniors, our shoppers, our churchgoers. This is something that we need to tackle now, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the opportunity to speak about this. It is time to tackle these assault clips and assault weapons, which have done such terrible damage to our kids and our people.

□ 1230

#### PRIVATE CALENDAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MARCHANT). This is the day for the call of the Private Calendar.

#### SOPURUCHI CHUKWUEKE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will call the bill on the calendar.

The Clerk called the bill (S. 285) for the relief of Sopuruchi Chukwueke.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill as follows:

S. 285

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the purposes of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.), Sopuruchi Chukwueke shall be deemed to have been lawfully admitted to, and remained in, the United States, and shall be eligible for adjustment of status to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence under section 245 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1255) upon filing an application for such adjustment of status.

(b) APPLICATION AND PAYMENT OF FEES.—Subsection (a) shall apply only if the application for adjustment of status is filed with appropriate fees not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) REDUCTION OF IMMIGRANT VISA NUMBERS.—Upon the granting of permanent resident status to Sopuruchi Chukwueke, the Secretary of State shall instruct the proper officer to reduce by 1, during the current or next following fiscal year, the total number

of immigrant visas that are made available to natives of the country of the birth of Sopuruchi Chukwueke under section 202(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1152(a)(2)).

(d) DENIAL OF PREFERENTIAL IMMIGRATION TREATMENT FOR CERTAIN RELATIVES.—The natural parents, brothers, and sisters of Sopuruchi Victor Chukwueke shall not, by virtue of such relationship, be accorded any right, privilege, or status under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This concludes the call of the Private Calendar.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

#### SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT COMPANY MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2012

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6504) to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to provide for increased limitations on leverage for multiple licenses under common control, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6504

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Small Business Investment Company Modernization Act of 2012".

#### SEC. 2. IN GENERAL.

Section 303(b)(2)(B) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 683(b)(2)(B)) is amended by striking "\$225,000,000" and inserting "\$350,000,000".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) and the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.